

**District V Advisory Board**  
**Minutes**  
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**November 4, 2002**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Auburn Hills Golf Course Clubhouse**  
**443 S. 135<sup>th</sup> West**

The District V Advisory Board meeting began at 7:05 p.m. at the Auburn Hills Golf Course Clubhouse at 335 S. 135<sup>th</sup> Street West. In attendance were the District V City Council Member & Vice-Mayor, Bob Martz, and nine (9) District Advisory Board Members including six (6) regular members and three (3) youth members. Seven (7) City Staff were present and approximately 20 members of the public of which six (6) signed the signup sheet.

**Members Present**

David Almes  
Bob Bulman  
Amy Doan  
David Dennis  
Amy Garcia  
Brendan Groves  
Andy Johnson  
Laura Scrafford  
Bob Sorensen  
Vice Mayor Bob Martz

**Members Absent**

Sean Cash  
Maurice Ediger  
Fran Hoggatt  
Samantha Morgan  
Teresa Schmidt

**Staff Present**

Officer Robert Ahsens, Police  
Officer Brad Haught, Police  
Ed Bricknell, Fire  
Ernie Garcia, City Manager's Office  
Paul Gunzelman, Public Works  
Mark Bradshaw, Environmental Health  
Dana Brown, City Manager's Office

**Guests**

Listed on last page

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:07. **Vice Mayor Bob Martz** explained the purpose of the District Advisory Board as advisory to him as the elected representative for City Council District V. He also said that the voting was limited to the Board Members only, even in tie votes, and that his opportunity to vote on issues would be restricted to the City Council Meetings. He acknowledged that many issues come before the Board that are emotional to members of the public but he asked that appropriate behavior be maintained at the meeting and that each individual speak only when acknowledged during the process. He also acknowledged the youth members in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes and Agenda**

The minutes for October 7, 2002 were approved 6-0, as written.

The agenda for the meeting was approved with acknowledgement that staff was presenting at more than one DAB tonight and the agenda may be adjusted accordingly.

## **Public Agenda**

No items were scheduled and no citizens in attendance presented off-agenda items.

## **Staff Presentations**

### **Community Police Report**

**Bob Ahsens, Beat 19 Community Police Officer**, reported on specific concerns for the area. He reported that auto theft continues to be a concern. In addition, drag racing is being addressed as previously reported, through a trespassing program with business owners to be implemented by next summer. Because the individuals who drag race tend to gather in business parking lots to make contact, police believe that addressing the concern through trespassing will help provide a resolution.

**Officer Ahsens** introduced Officer Haught who was attending for Beat 17 in place of Officer Drew. **Bulman** asked Ahsens to better explain how a trespassing violation would work. **Officer Ahsens** explained that police would ask business owners to sign a traffic affidavit to issue a citation to any vehicle owner with their vehicle parked in the parking lot between the hours of 9:00 p.m.- 4:00 a.m. This would address the one hundred or more that gather in the parking lots with Esthner and West Streets being the favorite.

**Vice Mayor Martz** asked Ahsens to explain the process that occurs when a resident reports vandalism. **Ahsens** explained that when a call is received, an officer is sent out to collect any evidence and file a report. The report information is then sent to other officers. He said that he had conducted some information sessions with high school students to explain that if a violation occurs that results in \$500 or more in damages, the violation is a felony that will become part of the individual's police record. **Vice Mayor Martz** asked how citizens could obtain that information to which Ahsens said through the police website, part of the City's website. He added that if a property owner files a report and a person is arrested for the vandalism, the property owner is notified.

**Action: Receive and file**

## **Staff Presentations**

### **Request for Opening Street at 36<sup>th</sup> & Dugan**

**Paul Gunzelman, Public Works**, provided a brief update on staff research for this request, explaining that the redistricting of the council areas would be completed first. After the redistricting is approved by City Council, the residents in the area who would be impacted by the change would be surveyed. He said that all counts had been taken but 36<sup>th</sup> Street didn't appear to be valid numbers and would be recounted. Staff would then recommend that DAB IV be provided the information for a decision, given the plan for the area to be transferred from District V to District IV.

**Action: Receive and file**

### **Arterial Sidewalk Program**

**Paul Gunzelman, Public Works**, presented information on this citywide program and the recommendations for sidewalks along arterials in District V. He provided a list of sidewalks with missing links in District V for reference. He said that \$450,000 was allotted in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for citywide construction of sidewalk ramps for handicap access and of new sidewalks along arterials. The sidewalk ramps will utilize \$400,000, leaving only \$50,000 for the arterial sidewalks. The priority areas are those needed to fill in between existing sidewalks along arterials. With the cost of construction at \$10 per linear foot, the ability to construct is limited.

Additional information provided by Gunzelman included that (1) sidewalks in Districts II, III, IV, & VI are completed or in progress, (2) sidewalk construction is typically completed in approximately two weeks, and (3) the City builds sidewalks on arterials but repair and maintenance then become the property owners' responsibility.

Gunzelman said he had received a request for a sidewalk north of 21<sup>st</sup> Street and west of Tyler Road. Typically, the City considers the site request in relation to the locations of nearby schools and parks and also the locations scheduled in the CIP.

Discussion for the Board included whether a sidewalk was needed along south side of 21<sup>st</sup> Street and how existing sprinkling systems are handled. Gunzelman said that the City replaces any existing sprinkling system disrupted by the construction. He also noted that a sprinkler couldn't spray over a sidewalk.

**Bulman (Dennis)** moved to recommend first two options on list provided by Gunzelman—Tyler from 21<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> from Maize to Northwest Christian Church/Wal-Mart Service Drive. Motion passed 6-0.

**Action: Recommend approval of first two options needing links. Motion passed 6-0.**

Board Members asked additional questions for Gunzelman. **Johnson** asked if a traffic light would be placed at Central and 119<sup>th</sup> Streets to which **Gunzelman** said the light was warranted by traffic counts and that it was scheduled in the CIP for 2004. **Almes** asked for a Westport & Valleyview update to which **Gunzelman** said that traffic counts were completed and would be analyzed to present to the small committee for developing options. The options would then be presented to the DAB. **Vice Mayor Martz** updated the new youth members on the Westport & Valleyview issue of a request to open an existing closed street.

**George Walta**, Carr Street, asked if the timing of the stoplight could be increased for the north-south traffic at 119<sup>th</sup> & Kellogg. **Vice Mayor Martz** said this was a county stoplight and they would need to be contacted with the request.

### **Options for Selling and Enforcing Legal Fireworks**

**Vice Mayor Martz** reviewed the past consideration of this issue, saying the item had been presented at the October meeting with options presented for legalized fireworks and enforcement of their use. The Board decision was to defer action until Board Members could collect neighborhood feedback. He asked if any citizens had input for the Board before discussion began.

**Jim Noel, 400 S. Peterson**, expressed numerous concerns for fireworks including grass and roof fires. He stated that the City needed to return to firework displays as community events either downtown or in the neighborhoods. **Ed Bricknell, City Fire Marshall**, responded that the issue of controlling illegal fireworks through enforcement was the main issue.

**Clete Dold, 218 S. Breezy Point Circle**, said that Sedgwick County and the City needed to work together on this issue. **Bricknell** said the issue of selling fireworks as a major fund-raising project could be impacted through any solutions proposed.

With no further questions, **Vice Mayor Martz** then brought the discussion back to the Board and staff provided input from two absent members, Maurice Ediger and Samantha Morgan. **Dennis** said that what we currently have is a failure with 2002 showing damage costs of \$200,000 and 41 injuries.

**Groves** stated that it's really the people inappropriately using the fireworks, not the fireworks themselves. He believes the City needed to partner with the media to better educate the public. **Bulman** added that fireworks have lost some of the patriotic expression, and will become an emotional issue if it goes to Council. He said it is a people error.

**Johnson** said that illegal fireworks are used in the surrounding neighborhoods of his residence from July through cold weather, noting the lack of enforcement. **Bricknell** acknowledged the enforcement issue was further compounded by novelty items actually being prohibited by City code but typically allowed.

**Mark Bradshaw, Environmental Health**, stated that he would like to see designated areas for shooting fireworks to involve families. **Vice Mayor Martz** acknowledged that Wichita once handled fireworks in this way.

**Garcia** made a point that seatbelts and helmets are enforced due to what's acceptable. In consideration, she would support a total ban on fireworks to make it even easier to enforce.

**Vice Mayor Martz** asked for each Board member to vote for one of the five options presented previously. The results were as follows:

- Option A – Complete ban with pro-active patrols – 4
- Option B – Ban all fireworks except for certain time period on July 4<sup>th</sup> only for consumer-grade fireworks with pro-active patrols – 0
- Option C – Maintain current restriction and roving patrol methods – 0
- Option D – Allow consumer-grade fireworks and only maintain patrol operations during week of July 4<sup>th</sup> – 3
- Option E – Explore other options – 1

**Action: Board members made individual recommendations in support of the following options: 1) complete ban; 2) allow consumer-grade fireworks; and, 3) explore other options.**

### **Environmental Health Codes**

**Mark Bradshaw, Environmental Health**, provided an update on code violations reported to the department by handing out a quarterly report. He noted that changes in procedures had been made. Tidemark, a software tracking system, will provide reports at the first of next year. He said that system would be part of the joint code efforts for the City in which Police, OCI, and Environmental Health could all identify & report problem properties. The department that typically has handled the case will then follow up. In addition, Bradshaw said that more funding was available for abatements in which the City contracts with a company to clean up the property after sufficient notification and the cost is charged to the property owner's tax assessment. The new approach is aimed at speeding the process and cleaning up the property through abatement, and taking fewer cases to Environmental Court making the process faster.

A question was asked whether fencing on a property impacted the code to which Bradshaw said the code applies whether the property is fenced or not. If property is open with no fencing, the notification process is used but if the property owner challenges the citation and the case goes to court, the judge can still order abatement. **Johnson** asked about junk vehicles on resident or commercial properties to which **Bradshaw** said that Title Eight (8) codes apply to residential areas while Title Seven (7) Codes with zoning regulations apply to commercial area.

**Action: Receive and file.**

### **Pilot Project for Electronic DAB V Agenda**

Staff presented an update on this pilot project saying departments are now submitting information on items for the District V Advisory Board agenda as electronic documents. Staff asked for input from the Board and a few suggestions were made including creating links to background information for each item and requesting a reply for assurance of delivery. Staff urged all members to ensure that their Internet service was performing properly in hopes that the electronic transmission of the agenda & background would be ready for the December meeting.

**Action: Receive and file.**

### **Board Agenda**

#### **Neighborhood Matching Grant Applications**

**Breezy Lake Homeowner Association** submitted a grant for trees and shrubs for their area along the Maple Street expansion project. **Bulman** noted that no budget was included and that the Board should be consistent in the information requested. **Staff** said that the Board could either defer action until the information is provided, or award pending submittal of the HOA budget. **Bulman** said either wouldn't bear on the merit of the application but moved that budget be provided before action was taken (**Johnson**). **Doan** asked how the plants are purchased. **Vice Mayor Martz** agreed and also asked how the Board knew that Public Works and Parks & Recreation approved of the types and site of the plants. **Dennis** said he agreed that we needed to be consistent but would vote to award if voting tonight. **Vice Mayor Martz** asked for a ruling and action on the pending motion resulted in a tie vote of

3:3. **Garcia (Bulman)** then made a second motion that the application decision be deferred until next month and reviewed first. Motion passed 6-0.

**Action: Defer award decision on Breezy Lakes' request until additional information is provided.**

**Vice Mayor Martz** stated that the Board needed to select a pro-tem, as he would be out of town for the next meeting and the current pro-tem, Fran Hoggatt was having some health problems. Johnson (Sorenson) moved that David Dennis be selected. Motion passed 6-0.

**Action: David Dennis selected as Board Pro-tem (Johnson/Sorenson) by a vote of 6:0.**

DAB Concerns included the following:

- Charitable Solicitations by the Fire Department on 13<sup>th</sup> & Tyler – Do medians exist there?
- USGS Gage of Cowskin – Difficult to find information.
- Drainage Runoff – Lou Sheets has expressed concern to the City regarding the two different plans from separate engineering consultants were approved by the City, resulting in the yards of several properties being flooded from the runoff of adjacent properties. In addition, Dennis noted that an open issue still exists regarding zoning and platting. Garcia agreed that it was an important issue to address. Vice Mayor Martz said that the City has begun working with builders to resolve this issue and who will be the point of accountability. He said that the City is working with Wess Galyon and Mitch Mitchell to develop a plan, as was the approach for development of the Backyard Drainage Plan.
- Business Vehicles carrying mud onto streets – Bulman asked if this is a violation. Staff will follow up. Bulman also said that he had observed commercial trucks using a city fire hydrant—is this allowed? Vice Mayor Martz said allowances are made in certain situations but not a common practice.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting for District Advisory Board V is scheduled on December 2, 2002 at Auburn Hills Clubhouse at 7:00 p.m.

**No Action Required.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana Brown, Neighborhood Assistant  
City Council District V

### **Guest List:**

Elmer Schmitz	302 Limuel Ct.
Jeanne Schmitz	302 Limuel Ct.
Sara Rueschoff	201 Maple Dunes
Jim Noel	400 Peterson
Vernon Deines	130 S. Breezy Point Circle
Clete Dold	218 S. Breezy Point Circle
Dennis Stockemer	909 N. Maize Road